REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the present Application. Consequently, claims 1-15 remain pending in the present Application.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 to more clearly recite that both the application and the emulation module interface with an operating system on the development system. Support for the amendment can be found in Figure 3 of the specification. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is added. Moreover, Applicant notes that claims 1, 7, 8, 14, and 15 previously recited that the emulation module interfaced directly with the operating system and that the application interfaced directly with the operating system. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that the scope of claims 1, 7, 8, 14, and 15 is not narrowed.

In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,088,033 ("Binkley") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,812,668 ("Weber"). In so doing, the Examiner appeared to acknowledge that Binkley did not teach a point of sale system. Instead, the Examiner relied upon Weber to disclose a point of sale system. In addition, the Examiner relied upon Binkley as disclosing an emulation module that interfaces directly that corresponds to the device being emulated.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection. Claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 recite methods, a system and a computer-readable media for developing a point of sale application on a development system that is independent of the point of sale system with which the application is to be used. The point of sale equipment with which the application will be used has a device. The application is capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment.

Independent claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 recite methods, a system and computer readable media, which emulate the devices using emulation modules. In particular, claims 1, 7, 8, 14, and 15 recite that both the emulation modules and the application interface directly with the operating system of the development system. Consequently, the emulation modules would not replace portions of the application. Because the emulation objects are coupled to the operating system, rather than replacing portions of the application, the method and system in accordance with the present invention can give the developer a more accurate indication of the behavior of the application. Specification, page 11, lines 9-14 and page 14, lines 8-11. Furthermore, because the application and emulation module interface directly with the operating system, the emulation need not occur over hardware interfaces of the development system. As a result, the testing and development of the application is improved.

Binkley in view of Weber fail to teach or suggest a method, system, or computer readable medium in which the emulation object and application interface directly with the operating system of the development system. Binkley does describe a system used in emulating a "target system." Binkley, col. 1, lines 60-62. Binkley describes a system which provides a separate "emulating processor" that emulates the functions of the target system, thereby allowing the processor of the host (or development) system to continue normal operation. Binkley, col. 2, lines 25-35 and Abstract, lines 1-7. The emulating processor thus functions as though it were the central processor of the system being emulated. Binkley, col. 6, lines 39-52. See also, Fig. 1 items 12, 14, 16, and 18 as well as Fig. 2. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that such a processor would include an operating system analogous to the operating system found on the actual point of sale equipment. The application being developed would, therefore, interface with the operating system of the emulating processor. The host processor, which presumably

·runs its own operating system, provides the emulated environment including mimicking devices of the target system. Binkley, col. 6, line 66-col. 7, line 1. Thus, any software used by the host system to provide the emulated environment would presumably interface with the operating system of the host system. Although Binkley uses the host processor to provide the emulation environment, Applicant has found no mention in Binkley of emulation modules that interface with the (same) operating system of the host system with which the application interfaces. Consequently, Binkley fails to teach or suggest a method, system or computer-readable medium in which both the application and emulation modules interface directly with the operating system of the development system.

Furthermore, the host processor apparently provides an emulated environment for the emulating processor using hardware interfaces of the host system. Binkley, col. 7, lines 1-4 and Figs. 1-2. In other words, the host system provides inputs and accepts outputs over hardware interfaces to mimic devices that would normally be connected to the system being emulated. Binkley, col. 7, lines 17-62; col. 8, lines 5-30; and Fig. 3. Consequently, to the extent that Binkley teaches that the emulation occurs over the hardware interfaces, Binkley teaches away from interfacing both the emulation modules and application directly with the operating system of the host system. Consequently, Binkley does not teach or suggest a method, system or computer-readable medium in which the emulation modules are interfaced directly to an operating system which interfaces with the application being developed.

Weber fails to remedy the defects of Binkley. Weber describes a technology for use with a point of sale system. Consequently, no separate development system having an operating system is described in Weber. Thus, no specialized devices in the merchant's point of sale system are mimicked using the system of Weber. For similar reasons, Weber does not describe

·emulating devices on the merchant's point of sale system during development of a point of sale application by providing emulation modules directly interfaced with the operating system. Applicant has found no mention in Weber of emulating devices by providing an emulation module interfaced directly with the operating system of the development system. Weber, therefore, also fails to teach or suggest having emulation modules and the application being developed both interfacing directly with the operating system of the development system.

Because neither Binkley nor Weber teach or suggest interfacing emulation modules directly with an operating system of the development system, any combination of Binkley and Weber would fail to teach this feature. Further, as previously argued, Binkley in view of Weber also fail to teach or suggest emulating the specialized devices often connected to a point of sale system. Consequently, Binkley in view of Weber also fails to teach or suggest the methods, system and computer readable media recited in claims 1, 7, 8, 14, and 15. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 are allowable over the cited references.
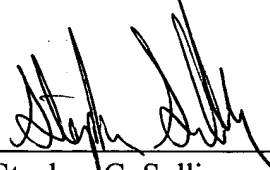
Claims 2-6 depend on independent claim 1. Claims 9-13 depend on independent claim 8. Consequently, the arguments herein apply with full force to claims 2-6 and 9-13. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-6 and 9-13 are also allowable over the cited references.

Accordingly, for the above-mentioned reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are allowable over the cited reference. Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims as currently presented.

Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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